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# Press Release

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## ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL MCGRAW URGES FIRE SAFETY PRACTICES FOR ELDERLY

During Fire Safety Week, October 3-9, Attorney General Darrell McGraw's Consumer Protection Division, along with the United States Consumer Product and Safety Commission, the West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services, the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the AARP, are alerting people over 50 that they are at special risk for death and injury from fires. This age group is particularly susceptible due to their roles as babysitters for grandchildren and caregivers for elderly parents and relatives.

Attorney General Darrell McGraw said, "During Fire Safety Week we are making extra efforts to reach older adults so that they can learn to protect themselves and the ones they care for from fires."

Measures such as maintaining smoke detectors and knowing what to do in case of fire can save lives. According to government statistics, people between the ages of 65 - 74 are nearly twice as likely to die in a fire, ages 75 - 84 are four times as likely to die in fires, and those aged 85 and older are more than five times as likely to die in a fire.

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